

PATENT  
Atty Docket No. 1271-003/MMM  
AWS 542

In the claims:

All claims in the application are indicated below.

1. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone short text messaging method for transmitting short text messages of a message thread between short text messaging devices of an originating user and a recipient user, the originating user beginning the message thread with an originating short text message that is directed to the recipient user, the method comprising:

transmitting the originating short text message from the short text messaging device of the originating user to a short text messaging application;

correlating at the short text messaging application a message thread identifier with the originating short text message and a messaging address for the short text messaging device of the originating user;

transmitting the originating short text message and the message thread identifier to the short text messaging device of the recipient user and transmitting therefrom a reply short text message with the message thread identifier to the short text messaging application;

identifying the message thread identifier and the messaging address for the short text messaging device of the originating user corresponding to the reply short text message; and

transmitting reply short text message to the short text messaging device of the originating user,

the short text messaging device of the recipient user being uniquely identified by a short text message address, a message destination tag being included with the originating short text message and identifying the recipient user with an indication other than the short text message address, and the message destination tag being located in a predefined location in the originating short text message.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising storing with the short text messaging application the message destination tag in association with

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short text message address of the short text messaging device of the recipient user.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2 in which the message destination tag is included in the originating short text message sent by the originating user.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the short text messaging device of the originating user is uniquely identified by a short text message address, the message thread identifier being included with the reply short text message and allowing identification of the originating user with an indication other than the short text message address of the originating user messaging device.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which at least one of the short text messaging devices of the originating and recipient users is a mobile telephone.

8. (Currently amended) In a short text messaging system of a mobile telephone network having a short message service center that directs short text messages between short text messaging devices, the improvement comprising:

a short text messaging application that is in a computer readable medium and that correlates a message thread identifier with short text messages transmitted between short text messaging devices of an originating user and a recipient user and includes the message thread identifier in the short text messages, the originating user beginning a message thread with an originating short text message that is directed to the recipient user, the short text messaging application incorporating the message thread identifier identifying into the short text messages to identify messaging addresses for the short text messaging devices of the originating and recipient users,

the short text messaging device of a recipient user being uniquely identified by a short text message address, a message destination tag being included with the originating short text message and identifying the recipient user with an indication other than the short text message address.

9. (Cancelled)

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10. (Currently amended) The system of ~~claim 9~~ claim 8 further comprising software that is in a computer readable medium for storing with the short text messaging application the message destination tag in association with short text message address of the short text messaging device of the recipient user.

11. (Original) The system of claim 8 in which the short text messaging device of the originating user is uniquely identified by a short text message address, the message thread identifier being included with the reply short text message and allowing identification of the originating user with an indication other than the short text message address.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11 further comprising software in a computer readable medium for storing with the short text messaging application the message originating tag in association with short text message address of the short text messaging devices of the originating user.

13. (Original) The media of claim 8 in which short text messaging application resides in a network portal that is accessible by a short message service center.

14. (Original) The system of claim 8 in which the message thread identifier correlates short text messages transmitted between the short text messaging devices of the originating user and plural recipient users.

15. (Currently amended) In computer readable medium, a short text ~~messaging application~~ message data structure of a short text message that is sent between an originating message device and a recipient message device supporting identification of a thread of short text messages in a mobile telephone network short text messaging system, comprising:

message text;

a short text message thread identifier that identifies the thread of short text messages; and

an identifier for at least one of an originating message user; and ~~an identifier for~~ a recipient message user.

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the identifier for the recipient message user including a destination tag that is distinct from a short message address for a short text message device associated with the recipient user.

16. (Original) The medium of claim 15 in which the identifiers for the originating and recipient message users correspond to short message addresses for short text message devices associated with the originating and recipient message users.

17. (Original) The medium of claim 15 in which the identifier for the originating message user includes an originating tag and a separate short message address for a short text message device associated with the originating user.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)